

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
123RD LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills and adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123rd Maine Legislature coming from the

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

July 2007

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STATE OF MAINE

123RD LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS



This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* summarizes all bills and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123rd Maine Legislature, which was in session from December 6, 2006 to June 21, 2007.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee, and within each committee by LD number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. The appendices include a summary of relevant session statistics, an index of all bills by LD number and an index of enacted laws by law type and chapter number.

Final action on each bill is noted to the right of the bill title. The abbreviations used for various categories of final action are as follows:

CON RES XXX.....	Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE.....	Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died
DIED BETWEEN BODIES.....	House & Senate disagree; bill died
DIED IN CONCURRENCE.....	One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT.....	Action incomplete when session ended; bill died
EMERGENCY.....	Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE.....	Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE.....	Bill failed to get majority vote
FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT.....	Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY.....	Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died
INDEF PP.....	Bill Indefinitely Postponed
ONTP (or Accepted ONTP report).....	Ought Not To Pass report accepted
OTP-ND.....	Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
P&S XXX.....	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
PASSED.....	Joint Order passed in both bodies
PUBLIC XXX.....	Chapter # of enacted Public Law
RESOLVE XXX.....	Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
UNSIGNED.....	Bill held by Governor
VETO SUSTAINED.....	Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note that the effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session is **September 20, 2007**. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure is specified in the enacted law summary for those bills.

Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

LD 564 Resolve, To Streamline the Regulation of Agricultural Composters

RESOLVE 139

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NUTTING J	OTP-AM	S-357

LD 564 requires commercial agricultural composting operations to register with the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources. The bill requires the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to adopt rules for the regulation of commercial agricultural composting operations. The bill also requires the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to submit a written report to the Commissioner of Environmental Protection if a violation of the laws administered by the Department of Environmental Protection is believed to have occurred because of a failure to implement prescribed best management practices.

Committee Amendment "B" (S-357)

The committee amendment changes the bill to a resolve directing the Commissioner of Environmental Protection and the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to take certain steps regarding oversight of agricultural composting operations. The commissioners are directed to report back to both the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources. The Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry is authorized to submit legislation pertaining to agricultural composting operations during the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2007, chapter 139 directs the Commissioner of Environmental Protection to revise the department's rules pertaining to the licensing of agricultural composting operations as waste management facilities. The Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources is directed to develop components to be included in a compost management plan. The commissioners are directed to consult with one another as they proceed with these directives and are required to report back to both the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources. The Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry is authorized to submit legislation pertaining to agricultural composting operations during the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

LD 598 Resolve, To Allow Municipalities To Purchase Burn Permit Software

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BARTLETT	ONTP	

LD 598 directs the Department of Conservation, Maine Forest Service to allow municipalities to purchase and use burn permit software from a private party if all statutory requirements of issuing burn permits are met by the software.

LD 629 Resolve, To Create the Sebago Lake Village State Park

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CRESSEY SNOWE-MELLO	ONTP	